

New York Times, February 2, 1944

PRESIDENT ASSERTS JAPANESE WILL PAY

Prior is to Track Down the Individuals Responsible for
Prison Atrocities

By

John H. Grider

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 - President Roosevelt gave assurances at his press conference this afternoon that the individual Japanese responsible for atrocities against American prisoners, such as was reported last week by the War and Navy Departments, would be tracked down and brought to justice.

President Roosevelt said the nation was much startled by the recently published atrocity stories, and rightly so. Those stories, he said, came in five or six months ago, and everybody's first impulse was to publish them.

But the matter was taken up with the military here and abroad, with our British and Chinese allies, and humanitarian considerations entered into the decision, the President said. He pointed out that the Gripsholm was still running as a "mercy ship" carrying supplies intended for our men and women held prisoners by the Japanese, and it was felt unwise to do anything that might jeopardize the chance that those supplies might get through.

The Chief Executive said the stories were held up until it became hopeless to get food and other supplies through to the prisoners. In the last two weeks, he added, official suspicions that the supplies were not getting through was confirmed.

Since there was nothing more we could do for our men, it was decided that we would not be hurting our own men by publishing them, the President said.

Of course, he added, the families of the men out there were deeply concerned, and he himself felt very strongly for such families, particularly those of communities like some in New Mexico and Illinois where the whole State Guard went out to the Philippines.

The President was reminded that when the Japanese captured and executed some of the Tokyo fliers he had said the Japanese officers or officials who were responsible would be held strictly to account for their acts. Did the same policy apply in the case of the Americans subjected to atrocities in the Philippines?

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Mr. Roosevelt replied that the policy still held, for the atrocities in the Philippines as well as those committed against the Tokyo fliers. He said he might have to get the FBI after them.

1 P.S. Doc. No. 3278

EXHIBIT No.

ニイヨーク・タイムス一九四二年二月二日(水曜日)

日本人償ふべし大統領主張ス

俘虜残虐行為責任者追究ヲ約ス

JOHN H. CRIDDER

ジョー・エッチ・クライダー

ニイヨーク・タイムス特報

二月一日 WASHINGTON
ワシントン発 先週陸海軍両省ヨリ報告セラレタヤキ米
国人俘虜ニ対スル残虐行為ニ就テハ日本人各責任者ヲ追求シ
ソノ理非ヲ裁クべしと今日午後、新聞記者団会見、席上
ROOSEVELT
ローズヴェルト大統領ハ確言シタ。

最近発表サレタ残虐行為記事ヨリ国民ハ非常ニ驚異イタコ
ロデアリソラアルハ當然デアルト ROOSEVELT
ローズヴェルト大統領ハ語リタ。
ソノ等ノ話ハ五六月間ニ耳ニタテタリ凡テ、人ガ第一ニ受ケル衝動ハ
ソノ等ヲ公表スルコトデアッタト彼ハ言ヒタ。

然レコノ事ハ當地及海外、軍部関係者及我盟邦是友
ノ兩國、間デモ取ルケラレ、又人道ニ義的考慮モコレノ決定ニ織
込ラレタ、デアルト大統領ハ言ヒタ。 GRANT
クリフトスホルム子カ「救援船」ト
シテ日本側ニ俘虜ニサツテナル我国人男女、為ニ給与品ヲ積ミ
テ依然出動シテキルガ、ソノ等、給与品ガ目的ヲ果ス機会ヲ
防ゲル様ナルコトヲスルハ賢明デナイト考ヘルトイフコトヲ彼ハ指
摘シタ。

俘虜ニ食糧ヲ他、給与品ヲトラゲルコトハ絶望トナルニ至ルミ
記事ヲ差シトメテイタト大統領ハ言ヒタ。 給与品ハ先々度々
デハイカトイフ様ニ同調、然レ先週面中ニ確認シタト彼ハ附言シタ。

I.P.S. Doc. No. 3278

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我國外、爲三枚を最早何事を爲すに三つ以上この記事を發表する所
自國人を不利に陥つてモカロート深意を呈し、之をト大統領は言ふ。

勿論其方面、兵員、家族等ハ非常ニ憂慮し又彼自身ニ
ソ種々家族殊ニ NEW MEXICO 及 ILLINOIS 等、如キ州防衛軍
全部ハ PHILIPPINES に出征する事ハ地域、人々、家族ニ深ク
同情スル彼ハツケ加ヘタ。

日本側ハ東京爆撃ノ参加艦行士、幾人カラ捕テ死刑
ニシテ當時コ、件ニ関シ責任アル日本人將校又ハ官吏ハ彼
等ノ所爲ニ就テ嚴重ニ其責ヲ問ハルベシト大統領が言フ。
トラ覺エテイルテアラント記憶ヲ問ハル。同様ナル政策ハ
PHILIPPINES 於テ殘虐行爲ヲ受ケタアメリカ人、場合ニモ通
用サレタデアツタノカ。

之ニ答ヘテ PHILIPPINES 於ケル殘虐行爲並ニ東京爆撃ノ
艦行士ニサレタ殘虐行爲ニ對シ依然コ、方針ヲ採ラシテイル
自ラ ROOSEVELT 氏ハ述ベタ。彼ハ、殘虐行爲ニ就テハ F B
I 合衆国司法調査局ノヲシテ調査セルカモ知シヌト云フタ。

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